

From: Teresa Mercer
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 10:40 AM
To: Teresa Mercer
Subject: Collin County 50/3 Program for new businesses

The following and attachment is sent on behalf of Bill Bilyeu, Collin County Administrator.

Teresa Mercer

Collin County
Admin Services
972-548-4631

Mayors and Managers,

The Commissioners Court voted at their October 10th meeting to enact a tax incentive program (50/3) to encourage the creation and relocation of new businesses to Collin County. The 50/3 program will be adopted pursuant to Chapter 381 of the Local Government Code and will provide a 50% “refund” for each of the first 3 years that an eligible business is in operation. To be eligible, a business must employ the equivalent of 5 full time employees, have a taxable value of (improvements and business personal property) of not less than \$100,000, and have timely paid their annual property taxes. The 50/3 program is effective for new businesses not located within the boundaries of a TIF or TIRZ and must open for business on or after January 1, 2012. Additional information is included in the attachment to this email.

Based upon discussions with many city leaders, the Commissioners Court expects to adopt a final 50/3 program policy which includes addendums to meet the needs of each city. As an example, some cities asked that the 50/3 program not be granted to new retailers or specific types of businesses (game rooms, liquor stores, sexually oriented business, etc.) or limited only to businesses in underutilized areas of their community. In other words, Farmersville may ask that the 50/3 program not be granted within their city limits to game rooms while Plano may ask that no retailers be included.

My request is that you provide me with a proposed list of any specific 50/3 program limitations for your city no later than November 21st. The list can be in the form of a signed letter or council resolution scanned and emailed to me. Each cities’ response will be provided to the Commissioners Court for their review and adoption at their December 5th meeting.

The Commissioners Court is discussing a tax abatement program. Any abatement program that is adopted will function independent of the 50/3 program and a new business will be eligible for one program or the other but not both programs. FYI, an expanding business could be eligible for the abatement program but will not be eligible for the 50/3 program.

The Commissioners Court is excited about partnering with the cities to provide the 50/3 program and looks forward to your feedback.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

Bill Bilyeu
County Administrator
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972-548-4631